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corresponding sections with their numbering in the various state statutes and compilations. In future editions, when still more space will be required for the ever increasing adjudications, nearly a hundred and fifty pages can be saved by omitting the controversy over its adoption waged by Ames, Brewster, and McKeehan. This matter, excellent though it is, is of diminishing importance now, is abundantly accessible elsewhere, and would seem not to be strictly germane to the purpose of the book, which is, we suppose, to keep the profession up to date as to the status of this important statute before the courts. The author states in his preface that it is only "after much consideration and consultation with others" that he decided to retain these articles. It seems to the reviewer that it would not have been a serious mistake to omit them. Nowadays Punch's advice to those about to marry is equally applicable to those about to insert any unnecessary matter in a law book.

A table of the states in which variations or additions have been engrafted on the law shows instructively what difficulties in the way of pride of opinion confront the uniformitarians in law reform. Of fifty-two jurisdictions in which the law has been adopted, thirty-five have made some variations or engrafted some additions on the law as proposed. Not many of them, however, reach the bad preëminence of Illinois and Wisconsin with their thirty-one and twenty-five changes respectively, though Kentucky, North Carolina, and South Dakota each has more than ten. But many more have only one or two, and those not important, so that the efforts at uniformity have been crowned with at least a large measure of success.

In a word, this book, now brought down to date, will be found very useful; and that is all it aims to be.

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LEAGUE OF NATIONS: ITS PRINCIPLES EXAMINED. Volume II. By Theodore Marburg. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1919. pp. 149.

A SOCIETY OF STATES: SOVEREIGNTY, INDEPENDENCE, AND EQUALITY IN A LEAGUE OF NATIONS. By W. T. S. Stallybrass. New York: E. P. Dutton and Company. 1919. pp. xviii, 243.

Dissatisfaction with the treaty of peace, the unrestrained garrulity of the United States Senate, and the acuteness of labor problems have resulted in disillusionment and indifference with respect to the League of Nations. Yet the League, in President Wilson's phrase, must be made "a vehicle of life"; only through it can the world achieve a solution of the difficult problems that the Peace Conference failed to deal with, and only the unsatisfactory security which it grants will permit the cost of armaments to be reduced so that the world may avoid bankruptcy and, by measures of social amelioration, prevent great revolutions. If the recent conflict sowed so many seeds of industrial revolt, the present order will be completely unable to survive another great war.

These truths have as yet been inadequately realized in the United States. There has been practically no real discussion of the proposal, no great debate as to its feasibility, advisability, and the inconvenience that it would cause. Few have realized the importance of the third great decision that the United States was called upon to make: *The Covenanter*, by President Lowell, the Tafts, and Mr. Wickersham, was published and was a worthy successor to *The Federalist*, but it was late and only served to show what was necessary. For no great, new ideal — especially if it be unsanctioned by historical experience and mean a sacrifice of national or personal liberty of action — can be put into practice unless its advantages and difficulties are fully understood. The urgency was not so immediate and the course proposed more radical than

when the American Constitution was adopted, and public opinion required a much more prolonged and thorough instruction.

Of general appeals for the support of the League idea there were many, and these books had their place. But they should have been followed by a debate, and there was nothing resembling this. Instead, there were simply *ex parte* arguments, admirable as a preliminary, but giving nothing but a groundwork. Mr. Marburg's little volume belongs in this class. He examines the basic principles of a League. Old practices must be given up; the license to make war must be surrendered; sovereignty must be modified; there must be a will higher than that of the nation. But all this is possible if we have altruism in international relations, and the innovations which the League would require are not too great a price to pay for peace. It is an eloquent and able statement, written by a man versed in international law, with diplomatic experience, and feeling deeply the urgency of the problem. But it did not make many converts, I fancy; it did not answer many of the objections raised in the Senate and elsewhere. In itself it was well worth writing, but the difficulty is that Mr. Wilson did not take the American people into his confidence and that other writers did not begin a more intelligent, a more restrained, and a more helpful debate than that which followed in the United States Senate.

England did have such a discussion. The British Labor Party; a pamphlet series devoted to specific points rather than to the general idea; very well-informed debates in the House of Lords and the House of Commons; constant and intelligent advocacy by several able journals, and a well-organized propaganda by various organizations, served to prepare the English mind. Mr. Stallybrass' volume has a prominent place in this educational campaign. The Vice-Principal of Brasenose College and a barrister-at-law, he has given us an excellent discussion of sovereignty and a League of Nations. This is perhaps the most difficult problem in connection with world organization, for even if the sceptic does not rest his case upon a narrow definition of sovereignty, his concern about restrictions upon national action, possibly inconvenient obligations, ability to withdraw from the League, power to refuse to accept mandates, and exclusion of certain problems, is attributable to this conflict of international organization and national independence.

Some writers would solve the problem by a new conception of sovereignty.¹ Mr. Stallybrass, however, shows that sovereignty is an ideal that cannot be approximated in international relations: it has constantly been limited in the past by administrative organization and treaties of various kinds. Additional limitations upon it would involve a question of degree, not of principle. Mr. Stallybrass lists all the authorities and goes into history for his illustrations; his argument, which commands cordial agreement, should dispose of the problem. The sacrifices required by the League Covenant are more than compensated for by the security which it gives.

The value of books such as these lies in the future even more than in the past. Mr. Wilson said of the League that a living thing had been born; it must be nourished and clothed that the world may be saved, and this is possible only if there is a complete understanding of the international problem. The action of the United States Senate is not all-important, for the test will come in the future: whatever America's reservations or the inadequacies of the League, it can be made to work, and can be improved if its members so desire. But this boon will come only when public opinion demands it, and to the accomplishment of this high purpose these two books contribute worthy and much-needed aid.

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¹ See Professor Chafee's review of Laski, *AUTHORITY IN THE MODERN STATE*, 32 HARV. L. REV. 979.